

MARICOPA COUNTY HEALTH CODE

CHAPTER II

SEWAGE AND WASTES

SECTION 6

PRIVIES, JOB TOILETS

REGULATION 1. Definitions

- a. "Chemical toilet" means a privy having a watertight, impervious pail or tank containing a chemical solution placed immediately beneath the seat or urinal and a pipe or conduit connecting the riser with the tank.
- b. "Earth-pit privy" means a structure used to receive and dispose of human excreta in a pit in the earth.
- c. "Incinerator toilet or privy" means a toilet or privy designed to permit destruction of excreta by incineration using LP gas, natural gas, or other source of heat to effect destruction of the body wastes.
- d. "Pail or can privy" means a privy having a watertight container directly under the seat for receiving human excreta, and ready access for the removal of the receptacle for emptying and cleaning.
- e. "Vault privy" means a privy for disposal of human excreta into a vault which is lined with impervious material and which provides access for the removal of the excreta.

REGULATION 2. General Provisions

- a. Storage and disposal; General -- The storage and disposal of human excreta shall be accomplished by one of the methods listed below which are arranged in the order or priority in which they will be considered by the Department.
 - (1) A water closet connected to a public sewer.
 - (2) A water closet connected to an individual septic tank disposal system.
 - (3) Earth-pit privy.
 - (4) Other--Such as chemical toilets, vault privies, pail or can privies, etc., when approved by the Department.
- b. The construction, operation, and maintenance of all privies shall comply with the general regulations concerning sewage and waste disposal and with the specific provisions of this section. An application to construct or reconstruct an earth-pit privy, or any other method of disposal of human excreta shall be submitted to the Department for approval prior to construction.
- c. Every privy shall be of approved construction and maintained in a sound, clean and sanitary condition, free of insects, vermin, over flowing, leakage and other unhealthful conditions. Suitable means shall be taken to effectively control black widow spiders and other poisonous insects.

- (1) A privy may be installed only;

- (a) where connection to an approved sewage disposal system is impractical or impossible;
 - (b) where water under pressure is not available;
 - (c) where the installation of an individual sewage disposal system or other approved method of sewage or waste disposal is impractical or impossible;
 - (d) where its contents will not pollute, or tend to pollute, any water supply, potential water supply, swimming pool or other bathing area;
 - (e) where it would not create a public health hazard or nuisance;
 - (f) and if it complies with all the provisions of this code.
- (3) No new privy will be permitted for any premises having a domestic water supply under pressure. Where an existing privy fails or requires major repair or replacement, it shall be replaced by an individual sewage disposal system or other approved system.
- (4) In general, privies shall be in accordance with the guidelines contained in Arizona Department of Health Services Engineering Bulletin Number 2.

REGULATION 3. Earth-pit Privy

a. Location

- (1) No earth-pit privy shall be installed closer than ten (10) feet to any property line or closer than twenty-five (25) feet to any building or structure used for human habitation.
- (2) No privy shall be installed closer than one hundred (100) feet to any well or other source of water supply or closer than fifty (50) feet to any pond, lake or stream.
- (3) In areas underlaid by fissured rock formations and whenever groundwater is encountered in the construction of the earth-pit, approval of the location, based on special investigation or conditions, must be obtained from the Department.

b. The earth-pit shall have a minimum capacity of fifty (50) feet per seat and shall be not less than four (4) feet deep measured from the original ground level.

c. The pit cribbing shall extend at least four (4) inches above the original ground level and to the full depth of the pit, except that if the pit extends into rock or other rigid formations, the lower section of the cribbing may, with the approval of the Department, be omitted. The cribbing when inserted, shall make firm, uniform contact with the earth wall on all sides. Cribbing shall not be used as support for the privy building or sills.

- d. In concrete slab privies, concrete sills shall be placed around and outside the top of the pit cribbing. These sills shall be at least five (5) inches wide and extend down at least four (4) inches to firm earth. For wood floor privies when concrete sills are not used, there shall be provided a mud sill or durable 4" x 6" wood pieces.

- d. Pit mounds shall be of well-tamped earth and shall extend outward on the level for a distance of not less than eighteen (18) inches in all directions from the sills and then continue outward to the original ground surface with a slope not greater than one (1) vertical to three (3) horizontal.
- e. The floor of the building shall be at least six (6) inches above the natural ground level. The floor and seat riser shall be built of impervious material or tongue and grooved lumber, and in a manner to exclude insects and other vermin. The bench or seat riser shall have an inside clearance of not less than twenty one (21) inches between the front and rear walls, and not less than twelve (12) between the side walls. The seat riser shall be so constructed and bonded to the floor as to prevent seepage through the riser upon the floor. The top of the seat shall not be less than twelve (12) inches or more than sixteen (16) inches from the floor.
- f. The seat opening shall be covered with a lid, hinged so as to provide a clearance of not less than three and one-half (3 1/2) inches horizontally between the back of the seat opening and the lid when raised. The lid shall be so constructed and installed as to exclude insects and other vermin.
- g. Unless adequate ventilation is provided by screened openings in the sides of the privy structure, the pit shall be vented from the riser to a point outside the building by a flue or vent pipe having a cross-sectional area not less than twelve (12) square inches. All joints shall be tight and the opening or openings screened with 16 mesh wire screen.
- h. The privy building shall have a self-closing door, be rigidly and soundly constructed, adequately ventilated, and shall provide privacy and protection from the elements.
- i. An earth-pit privy shall not be allowed to fill to a point higher than twenty-four (24) inches below the undersurfaces of the floor of the privy building. When the pit is filled, the mound around the pit shall be leveled and the pit contents covered with at least twelve (12) inches of earth.

REGULATION 4. Vault Privy

- a. The pit of a vault privy shall be lined with concrete or other impervious material, shall be watertight, and constructed so that the receptacle can be easily emptied and cleaned.
- b. A readily accessible cleanout shall be provided and shall be constructed so as to prevent the entrance of insects, animals and surface water.

- c. A portion of the impervious vault cover shall make up the floor of the privy.
- d. The superstructure, seat, riser and vent shall be the same as that required for earth-pit privies.

- e. Receptacles shall be emptied often enough to prevent overflowing, creation of an insanitary condition, a health hazard or a nuisance, and shall be maintained in good repair so as to prevent leakage of the contents to the surrounding ground or onto the floor or other portions of the privy structure.

REGULATION 5. Pail or Can Privy

- a. A watertight container shall be provided directly beneath the seat and shall be easily removable for emptying and cleaning.
- b. The door provided for servicing the receptacle must be readily accessible and constructed so as to prevent the entrance of insects and other vermin.
- c. The floor, riser, seat, and superstructure shall be the same as that required for earth-pit privies.
- d. Receptacles shall be emptied often enough to prevent overflowing, creation of an insanitary condition, a health hazard or a nuisance, and shall be maintained in good repair so as to prevent leakage of the contents to the surrounding ground or onto the floor or other portions of the privy structure.

REGULATION 6. Job Toilets, Chemical Toilets

- a. No person shall initiate or proceed with construction, erection, alteration, repair, or razing project without first having provided an adequate number of suitable sanitary job toilet facilities for the use of workers on the project in a ratio of 1 toilet per 1-30 workers. Such toilet facilities shall be of the water-flushed or chemical type, and located on or within two hundred (200) feet of each work area within the project site and of a type approved by the Department.
- b. At any public gathering for any commercial, religious or public event where adequate permanent toilet facilities are not provided on the immediate premises as required by State law, suitable approved sanitary toilet facilities of the water-flushed or chemical type adequate for the estimated attendance, shall be located within two hundred (200) feet of such gathering, with the minimum of 1 per 100 attendance or as required by the Health Officer.
 - (1) The use of permanent off-site toilet facilities may be approved providing written permission has been secured for such use from the owner of the toilets and providing further that the public is permitted free and reasonable use of the facilities during working hours or for the duration of the gathering.
- c. All job toilet installations shall comply with the general regulations concerning sewage and waste disposal and with the specific provisions of this section.

- (1) Job toilets shall be of sanitary construction and maintained in a clean and sanitary manner. Toilet paper shall be available at all times.
- (2) No job toilet shall be installed within twenty (20) feet of an occupied premise nor within ten (10) feet of any public thoroughfare or sidewalk, unless authorized by the Department.
- (3) The floors of water-flushed type toilets maybe of earth, but the floors of chemical toilets shall be of smooth finished, nonabsorbent material. Seats, walls and ceilings shall be of smooth, easily cleanable, light colored finish.
- (4) Toilet facilities shall include a urinal for males, installed at least 20" from the toilet seat opening. The urinal shall be made of corrosion-resistant, impervious material finished with a smooth surface and sloped to facilitate cleaning and draining. A splash board of similar material at least 9" higher than the overflow rim shall be provided.
- (5) In chemical toilets, seats shall be so installed as to insure that wastes drop unimpeded into a receiving tank. The receiving tank shall be of impervious, corrosion-resistant material with an easily accessible opening for cleaning. The tank shall be built of a material and thickness acceptable to and approved by the Department. The tank and bowl shall be ventilated by means of a screened pipe at least 4" in diameter which shall extend at least 6" above the roof line. Vent pipes in chemical toilets, when installed in the vertical tube forming the toilet bowl, shall be inserted at an angle not over 30° from the vertical to minimize clogging and corrosion.
- (6) A solution of sodium hydroxide or other approved chemical shall be maintained in the tank or receiving element at a level that prevents septicity and the creation of objectionable odors.
- (7) The contents of toilets shall be disposed of in an approved manner and location.

REGULATION 7. Permit Required

- a. No person shall provide, for rent or hire portable, nonpermanent job toilet facilities required under Regulation 6 unless he holds a valid permit to do so.
- b. Every job toilet structure shall have thereon in clear, easily readable letters the name and telephone number of the permittee.

